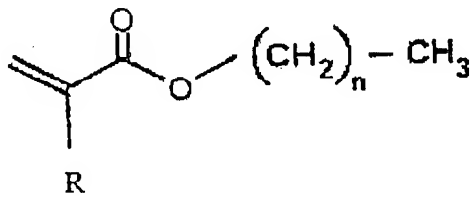
Claims

1. Mounting medium, suitable for use in the preparation of slides, said medium comprising a solution, in at least one organic solvent selected from the group consisting of saturated hydrocarbons, optionally mixed with one or more alcohols, of at least one (meth)acrylate resin based on one or more monomers having formula 1:

Formula I:



wherein R is hydrogen or a methyl group and n has a value of 0-19.

2. Mounting medium according to claim 1, in which the group - $(CH_2)_n$-CH_3 comprises a linear "backbone" of between 1 and 10 carbon atoms, which may be substituted at any position(s) with one or more saturated hydrocarbon substituents such that the total amount of carbon atoms in the group - $(CH_2)_n$-CH_3 is between 1 and 20.

3. Mounting medium according to claim 1, in which the resin of formula I is isobutyl methacrylate resin.

4. Mounting medium according to claim 1, in which the organic solvent is an aprotic solvent, and in particular a mixture of apolair aprotic solvents.

5. Mounting medium according to claim 1, in which the solvent is selected from the group consisting of:

- saturated hydrocarbons, such as linear and/or branched C_5-C_{20} (iso) paraffins in particular C_8-C_{12} (iso) paraffins, e.g. nonanes, decanes, undecanes, dodecanes and mixtures thereof; and

- said saturated hydrocarbons, mixed with one or more C_{1-6} alcohols.

6. Mounting medium according to claim 1, in which the organic solvent is UltraClear or a similar mixture of saturated (iso) paraffins.

7. Mounting medium according to claim 1, essentially having the composition:

- one or more resins based on monomers having Formula I: between 10 and 60 wt%;

- one or more organic solvents: between 40 and 90 wt%; to a total of 100 wt.% of the total composition.

8. Mounting medium according to claim 1, having a viscosity of between 2 and 6 Stokes - e.g. about 4 Stokes - at 25°C, as measured in a Gardner Bubble viscosimeter.